(d) Considering that 97 per cent of the tax returns are accepted without scrutiny, the provisions of compulsory audit subject the tax payer to some discipline in proper maintenance of their accounts. The dilution of these statutory provisions is not desirable.

(e) There is no such proposal under consideration.

(f) In view of (e) above, question does not arise.

Bank refusal to accept central excise duties in Chandigarh

6485. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Excise Collectorate, Chandigarh has permitted the enterprises engaged in processing of fabrics in Punjab to deposit central excise duties with designated branches of the Punjab National Bank;

(b) whether there have been persistent complaints by the entrepreneurs that the banks refuse to accept central excise dues, paid in cash, thereby exposing the tax payers to penal action; and

(c) whether the concerned Central Excise authorities would ensure that honest tax payers are not harassed and that there is no loss/decline in the revenue to the Government exchequer due to non-co-operative attitude of the collection agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Punjab National Bank is the designated bank for collection of Central Excise duty in the Central Excise Collectorate, Chandigarh hence, it is to collect duty of Central Excise from the processors of fabrics.

(b) There were a few complaints by the entrepreneurs that the bank branches in the disturbed areas of Punjab and J & K were not accepting large amounts of cash representing duty of Central Excise, mainly due to lack of adequate security.

(c) There is no harassment to any assessee as prompt remedial action is taken on receipt of complaints from the trade. At times of sudden closure of banks due to strike, riots, imposition of curfew or natural calamities etc. Central Excise duty can be paid by cheque direct to the Central Excise Collectorate which deposits the cheque in the designated bank on resumption of banking activities.

Restructuring the Syndicate Bank

6486. SHRI SURESH KAIMADI: Will the Minsiter of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Institute of Bank Management, Pune, has recommended extensive restructuring of the set-up of the Syndicate Bank;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that as a part of the Centre's package of refinancing the public sector banks, Syndicate Bank had received enormous amount from Government to shore up its eroded capital; and

(d) if so, what is the exact amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) Syndicate Bank had approached National Institute of Bank Management (NIBM) to undertake a study of the organisational structure of the Bank. NIBM have submitted their report suggesting re-organisation of certain departments at the Head Office and at Zonal and Divisional Offices. In the case of large branches of the bank, NIBM have recommended re-organisation on market segment basis.

(c) and (d) In January, 1994, Syndicate Bank received a sum of Rs. 680 crores towards re-capitalisation.